positive for C. difficile toxin and abstract data on cases using a standardized case report form. For a subset of cases (e.g., communityassociated C. difficile cases) sites will administer a health interview. Remnant stool specimens from cases testing positive for C. difficile toxin will be submitted to reference laboratories for culturing, and isolates will be sent to CDC for confirmation and molecular typing. Outcomes of this surveillance project will include the populationbased incidence of community- and healthcare-associated CDI among participating EIP sites, characterization of C. difficile strains that are responsible

for CDI in the population under surveillance with a focus on strains from community-associated cases, a description of the epidemiology of community- and healthcare-associated CDI, and hypothesis-generation for future activities using EIP CDI surveillance infrastructure.

The proposed surveillance for CDI through the Emerging Infections Program will expand CDC capacity to monitor incidence of *C. difficile* in community and healthcare settings as well as to monitor and detect antimicrobial resistance. This activity supports the HHS Action Plan for elimination of healthcare-associated infections.

CDC estimates that a total of 7,650 CDI Surveillance Case Report Forms (CRFs) will be completed during a oneyear study period on incident CDI cases within the EIP catchment area. Approximately 3,825 cases will require a completed CRF; the remaining 3,825 cases will only require a partially completed CRF. CDC estimates that 1,700 CDI Surveillance Health Interviews (HI) will be completed during a one-year study period. Surveillance Officers at the EIP sites will complete and submit the case report forms and health interviews. There are no costs to respondents.

#### **ESTIMATES OF ANNUALIZED BURDEN**

Form name	Respondents	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden per response (in hours)	Total burden (in hours)
CDI Surveillance Case Report Form—Complete.	EIP Surveillance Officer	10	383	1	3,830
•	EIP Surveillance Officer	10	382	15/60	955
CDI Surveillance Health Interview	EIP Surveillance Officer	10	170	45/60	1,275
Total					6,060

Dated: June 17, 2009.

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# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

#### Health Resources and Services Administration

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection: Comment Request

In compliance with the requirement for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects (section 3506(c)(2)(A) of Title 44, United States Code, as amended by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104–13), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) publishes periodic summaries of proposed projects being developed for submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. To request more information on the proposed project or to obtain a copy of the data collection

plans and draft instruments, e-mail paperwork@hrsa.gov or call the HRSA Reports Clearance Officer on (301) 443– 1129.

Comments are invited on: (a) The proposed collection of information for the proper performance of the functions of the agency; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

## Proposed Project: HRSA/Bureau of Primary Health Care Capital Improvement Program Application Electronic Health Records (EHR) Readiness Checklist (OMB No. 0915– 0325)—Extension

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) provides \$1.5 billion in grants to support "construction, renovation and equipment", and "the acquisition of health information technology systems, for health centers including health

center controlled networks receiving operating grants under section 330" of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 254b). HRSA is requesting extension of the approval of the Electronic Health Records (EHR) Readiness Checklist portion of the application where applicants must provide information to demonstrate readiness for electronic health records if they propose to use funds for electronic health record (EHR) related purchases. Of the \$1.5 billion, HRSA will award approximately \$850 million, through limited competition grants, for one-time Capital Improvement Program (CIP) grant funding in fiscal year (FY) 2009 to support existing section 330 funded health centers. Funding under this opportunity will address pressing capital improvement needs in health centers, such as construction, repair, renovation, and equipment purchases, including health information technology systems. Applicants must provide information using the EHR Readiness Checklist that demonstrates comprehensive planning and readiness for implementing EHRs.

The estimated annual burden is as follows: